

## **Combined Joint Task Force**

Operation Inherent Resolve APO AE 09306

March 1, 2016 Release # 20160301-01 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Military Strikes Continue Against ISIL Terrorists in Syria and Iraq

**SOUTHWEST ASIA-** On Feb. 29, coalition military forces continued to attack ISIL terrorists in Syria and Iraq. In Syria, coalition military forces conducted 12 strikes using attack, fighter, and remotely piloted aircraft against ISIL targets. Additionally in Iraq, coalition military forces conducted 15 strikes coordinated with and in support of the Government of Iraq using attack, fighter, and remotely piloted aircraft against ISIL targets.

The following is a summary of the strikes conducted against ISIL since the last press release:

#### **Syria**

- Near Al Hasakah, one strike struck an ISIL tactical unit and destroyed five ISIL buildings.
- Near Al Hawl, three strikes struck three separate ISIL tactical units and destroyed three ISIL vehicles and two ISIL buildings.
- Near Ayn Isa, three strikes destroyed an ISIL building, an ISIL vehicle, and an ISIL mortar system.
- Near Manbij, two strikes destroyed an ISIL vehicle borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) and an ISIL mortar system.
- Near Mar'a, three strikes struck two separate ISIL tactical units and destroyed three ISIL fighting positions.

#### **Iraq**

- Near Fallujah, four strikes struck two separate ISIL tactical units and destroyed an ISIL antiair artillery piece, an ISIL building, an ISIL bunker, an ISIL vehicle, an ISIL staging area, and denied ISIL access to terrain.
- Near Habbaniyah, one strike destroyed an ISIL vehicle.
- Near Mosul, two strikes destroyed an ISIL vehicle, an ISIL fighting position, and damaged a separate ISIL vehicle.
- Near Ramadi, three strikes destroyed an ISIL tactical vehicle, two ISIL tunnel systems, and two ISIL VBIEDs.

#### -MORE-

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- Near Sinjar, one strike destroyed an ISIL fighting position and suppressed an ISIL mortar position.
- Near Sultan Abdallah, one strike destroyed an ISIL fighting position and suppressed an ISIL mortar position.
- Near Tal Afar, one strike suppressed an ISIL mortar position.
- Near Tikrit, two strikes destroyed an ISIL vehicle and two ISIL mortar positions.

Strike assessments are based on initial reports. All aircraft returned to base safely.

A strike, as defined in the CJTF releases, means one or more kinetic events that occur in roughly the same geographic location to produce a single, sometimes cumulative effect for that location. So having a single aircraft deliver a single weapon against a lone ISIL vehicle is one strike, but so is multiple aircraft delivering dozens of weapons against a group of buildings and vehicles and weapon systems in a compound, for example, having the cumulative effect of making that facility (or facilities) harder or impossible to use. Accordingly, CJTF-OIR does not report the number or type of aircraft employed in a strike, the number of munitions dropped in each strike, or the number of individual munition impact points against a target.

The strikes were conducted as part of Operation Inherent Resolve, the operation to eliminate the ISIL terrorist group and the threat they pose to Iraq, Syria, and the wider international community.

The destruction of ISIL targets in Syria and Iraq further limits the group's ability to project terror and conduct operations. Coalition nations which have conducted strikes in Iraq include Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Jordan, Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Coalition nations which have conducted strikes in Syria include Australia, Bahrain, Canada, France, Jordan, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The Netherlands began strikes in Syria Feb. 15 this year. Due to administrative oversight, they were not previously listed on the strike release.

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